Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-30 (canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A medical device for filtering stenotic debris from a blood vessel, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a filter coupled to the shaft adjacent the distal end, the filter having a proximal region and a distal region;

wherein the proximal region of the filter includes a loose mesh that is sized to allow stenotic debris to pass therethrough; and

wherein the distal portion of the filter includes a tight mesh that is sized to prevent the passage of stenotic debris.

32. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 31, wherein the loose mesh spans both the proximal and distal regions of the filter, and wherein the tight mesh is defined by a microporous membrane disposed over the loose mesh at distal region of the filter.

33. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 31, wherein the filter includes one or more struts.

34. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 33, wherein the struts define the loose mesh, the tight mesh, or both.

35. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 33, wherein the struts are distinct from the both the loose mesh and the tight mesh.

36. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 31, further comprising a third mesh disposed over the proximal region of the filter, the distal region of the filter, or both.

37. (Previously Presented) An embolic protection filtering device for filtering debris from a blood vessel, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a filter coupled to the shaft adjacent the distal end, the filter having a proximal strut region, a distal filtering region, and a filtering mouth defined adjacent the intersection of the proximal and distal region; and

wherein the filtering mouth has a generally circular shape that includes a plurality of longitudinal deflections.

38. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 37, wherein the longitudinal deflections have a saw-tooth shape.

39. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 37, wherein the longitudinal deflections have a zigzag shape.

40. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 37, wherein the proximal strut region of the filter includes a first mesh that is sized to allow vascular debris to pass therethrough.

41. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 37, wherein the distal filtering portion of the filter includes a second mesh that is sized to prevent the passage of vascular debris.

42. (Previously Presented) An embolic protection filtering device, comprising:

a guidewire having a proximal end region and a distal end region;

a filter coupled to the distal end region of the guidewire, the filter having a strut portion and a filtering portion;

the strut portion of the filter being defined by a porous mesh that allows vascular debris to pass therethrough; and

the filtering portion of the filter being defined by a microporous mesh that is smaller than the porous mesh and that is sized to prevent the passage of vascular debris.

43. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 42, wherein the porous mesh spans both the strut portion and the filtering portion of the filter, and wherein the microporous mesh is defined by a filtering membrane disposed over the porous mesh at filtering portion of the filter.

44. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 42, wherein the filter includes one or more struts.

45. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 44, wherein the struts define the porous mesh, the microporous mesh, or both.

46. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 44, wherein the struts are distinct from the both the loose mesh and the tight mesh.

47. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 42, further comprising a third mesh disposed over the strut portion of the filter, the filtering portion of the filter, or both.

48. (Previously Presented) An embolic protection filtering device, comprising:

a guidewire having a proximal end region and a distal end region;

a filter coupled to the distal end region of the guidewire, the filter having a proximal strut region and a distal filtering region; and

wherein an intersection region is defined at the intersection of the proximal strut region and the distal filtering region, the intersection region following a path that includes alternating longitudinal deflections.

49. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 48, wherein the longitudinal deflections have a saw-tooth shape.

50. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 48, wherein the longitudinal deflections have a zigzag shape.

51. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 48, wherein the proximal strut region of the filter includes a first mesh that is sized to allow vascular debris to pass therethrough.

52. (Previously Presented) The filtering device of claim 48, wherein the distal filtering portion of the filter includes a second mesh that is sized to prevent the passage of vascular debris.